



HILSEN

JANUARY 2026



CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office / Folk School

(507) 247-3000

office@danebodlutheran.org

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday 9-2

Wednesday 9-2

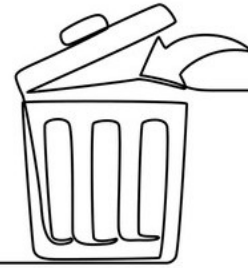
Thursday 9-2

Friday 9-12

If you have questions, ideas or pastoral care concerns, please reach out to Pastor Megan by calling or stopping in the main office.

Garbology 101

A Message from Pastor Megan



I recently learned about a niche branch of psychology called *Garbology*, literally “the science of trash.” A garbologist (new career day goals, anyone?) theorizes about the values of individuals and communities by observing what they presumably do not value, that is, what gets thrown out. On a large scale, this looks like taking samples from various layers of trash in landfills, inventorying the contents, and comparing inventories from different decades as well as various geographic, cultural, and socio-economic regions. On a smaller scale level though, a garbologist could swipe the waste basket of any willing subject and analyze what it is that gets left behind.

Take the trash bin in my kitchen, for example. If a garbologist were to dump out the black Hefty bag under the sink, they would find apple cores, banana peels, the shell of a chocolate advent calendar, plastic packaging from a 2026 planner, and the loose covers off of a 2025 planner. Here is how a garbologist may process this “data” and come to their conclusions about what my trash says about me:

“Beginning with the fruit remains, it appears this individual is a relatively healthy eater, fortunate enough to have access to fresh fruits in the off-season, so possibly someone with a stable income. The advent calendar suggests they observe Christmas. All of the flaps are open and empty, so, considering the date of this analysis is December 26th, this person could be a type A rule follower, who had to see the calendar used and discarded exactly as prescribed. The inclusion of the planners (plural) supports this theory. Finally, this person went to an extra effort to remove and likely recycle the inner pages, perhaps for environmental reasons. However, they were not conscientious enough to find an alternative use for the plastic covers or to compost the food scraps.”

To all of this, I would have to say, *guilty as charged*. But let me turn the question over to you. What does your post-Christmas trash say about your values and lifestyle? Is it filled with used paper plates, remnants of a large family gathering? Are there signs of a furry friend like empty cans of catnip? If there are no crumpled balls of wrapping paper, does that mean you’re one of *those* people who neatly presses, folds, and stores paper to use again next year? Finally, based on the absence or presence of these things, did you have a Christmas that was communal and relational? What did Advent look like and mean to you? See anything that suggests Jesus was the “reason for the season?”

What I most appreciate about garbology, besides its creativity, is its applicability. One person’s trash can be that same person’s opportunity to ask “What is it that I treasure? How well have I been living out my values? What would I like to see (or not see) in my next garbology inventory?” Garbology may not be our traditional process for forming a new year’s resolution but you have to admit, there is something oddly motivational about “trash talk.” Just “throwing it out there” as we begin 2026.

Minutes for Danebod Church Council

December 9th, 2025

PRESENT: Erik Jorgensen (President), Julie Kent (Sec.), Jackie Hess, Ivan Petersen, Garth Jensen, Pastor Megan Eide, Joan Jagt, Deb Sinding, Erik Gile (VP), and Heather Furan (Treasurer).

NOT PRESENT: Rick Nielsen

At 6:33 PM the meeting was called to order by Erik Jorgensen and a quorum was established. 0 additions were made to the agenda.
Devotions.

REPORTS:

1. Treasurer's report for October was presented. MSC to approve October report made by Deb and seconded by Garth. Treasurer's report for November was presented. MSC to approve November report made by Ivan and seconded by Jackie.
2. Secretary's report for November was presented. MSC to approve November minutes made by Joan and seconded by Jackie. MSC to move \$1,500 from undesignated funds to the scholarship fund to cover scholarships made by Pastor Megan and seconded by Joan.

Pastor's report. Took kids to the Jr High Youth Gathering and are planning on going again next year. Also, considering taking some Senior High Youth to their gathering in the Spring and the plan is to raise money during Lenten Dinners. Pastor took the summer mission trip crew to Deja Brew to reconnect. Thanks to WELCA for all they have done for Julibuttiker. Discussion was held about how to handle Annual Reports and are going to try having them in the church and then having recipients mark their names off when they have picked theirs up. Adult Ed is finishing up but will start something new in the Spring. Worship will be in the Gym Hall next week, Christmas Eve service will be at 5:00pm, No worship on Christmas Day, and worship on December 28 will be at Danebod with First English.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Parish Hall updates: The building is up and closed in.
2. Constitution Review Progress. Had a meeting but need to go through the funds pages to re-word them.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Fire Dept. Walkthrough. They would come through and look at the layout of all the buildings so they know more of where to go if a fire were to happen.
2. Annual Meeting date of February 1, 8? February 8th is the chosen date.
3. Budget Planning Meeting. Next week it will be done.
4. Employee Evaluations. They have been done.
5. Nominating Committee vacancies. Went through how many people they need on each vacancy.

Committee Reports

Administration (Joan Jagt, Erik Jorgensen, and Deb Sinding) – Meetings coming up.

Property (Garth Jensen & Erik Gile) – Garth found the bits for the wainscotting. Discussion on the maintenance position. Still waiting for tin for the steeple. MSC to bring on a part time maintenance person with an average of 3-5 hours per week with a 50/50 split with the Folk School made by Ivan and seconded by Erik G.

Cemetery (Rick Nielsen and Garth Jensen) – No report.

Parish Education & Youth Ministry (Erik Gile, Julie Kent, and Jackie Hess) – Christmas Program coming up.

Outreach & Stewardship (Jackie Hess) – No report.

Worship & Music (Julie Kent) – The pianos are getting tuned December 10.

Folk School (Deb Sinding) – Application for stair lift is in the mail and we should know in a couple of weeks. Stair lift is set to go in on the Folk School stairs to get to the basement. Air conditioning units for the kitchen area will be tabled to this spring. Looking at a commercial coffee maker for the kitchen area.

Financial Advisory (Ivan Peterson) – No report.

The next meeting is Tuesday, January 13th at 6:30 PM with Joan/Deb being the Council Communion Assistant.

MSC for adjournment at 8:49 PM by Jackie and seconded by Joan.

Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Kent

Folk School Committee Meeting – Monday, December 1, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:03 PM and Jerry opened with a prayer.

Present: Jerry Bly-Chairman, Mark Stage-Vice Chairman, Deb Sinding-Church Council Liaison, Deb Burckhardt, Olga Ekberg, Jill Jaspersen, Arnie Dam, Pastor Megan, Brenda Knudson-FS Caretaker, Heather Furan-Treasurer

Absent: Margie Bornhoft, Cade Drake, JoAnn Peterson

Brenda's Updates

1. Flooring will be completed in Men's Bathroom and on the Ramp (weather permitting) this month.
2. Mike Thomas came and completed work to unplug plumbing in basement bathrooms and repair toilets in Lodge.

November Financial Reports

1. Heather suggested to committee to make a policy for refunds of rental money that has been paid when there are cancellations.

MSC by Deb and seconded by Olga to approve November Financial Reports as presented.

Pastor's Updates

1. First Aid Kits have been purchased and installed near AED units.
2. Faith & Fitness class last session will be December 18th. It may resume again in the spring.
3. Jerry, Eric and Pastor Megan will do staff evaluations on Monday, December 8th.
4. Discussed and had many event ideas brought to the table to bring people back to Danebod during Aebleskiver Days.

Church Council Updates

Deb reported that the Church Council discussed the maintenance worker position.

November FS Meeting Minutes

MSC by Olga and seconded by Arnie to approve the November FS Meeting Minutes as presented.

Upcoming Rentals

1. December 17th – Bell and Choir Christmas Party – Lodge Commons
2. December 19th, 20th and 21st– Kari Guida, 1 room for 3 nights – Lodge
3. December 20th – Barb Johnson - 3 rooms for 1 night – Lodge
4. December 26th and 27th – Sharon Jensen, 2 nights – entire Lodge
5. December 26th – Joan Jagt – Folk School Rooms and Folk School Dining Area.

Stairway Chairlift Update

Jill and Olga will be finalizing the State of Minnesota “Application for Waiver” form and get it mailed in along with a check for the \$70.00 fee required as soon as possible, as the State of Minnesota Access Review Board only meets a few times every year to approve these applications.

Other Business

1. Discussed the need for Commercial Coffeemaker for the Dining Hall.
2. Marsha Petersen, Arnie & Priscilla Dam will provide Rullepulse and Liver Pate for the “Danish Holiday Happening”.

MSC by Deb Burckhardt and seconded by Arnie to adjourn at 7:05 PM.

Next meeting will be January 5th, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Jaspersen

As of November 30, 2025

Budget Year to Date \$171,236.08

General Fund Revenue to date 142,330.32*

Amount Under Budget to date **\$ 12, 010.62**

**Envelopes ONLY by month
-To meet budget collections
should be 13,872 per month**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
January	8,850.91	8,307.23
February	18,266.05	15,030.92
March	11,411.05	23,610.28
April	11,299.52	9,216.51
May	12,880.06	10,427.06
June	9,939.52	10,469.45
July	16,033.80	9,968.59
August	11,233.75	14,446.89
September	10,929.52	11,296.61
October	8,901.25	10,255.24
November	11,919.52	15,566.26
December		19,543.92
Total	<u>110,764.18</u>	<u>158,138.96</u>

**Envelopes ONLY for past 4 years as of
December 31, 2024**

2024	2023	2022	2021
158,138.96	159,431.57	128,811.08	126,014.24

PRAYER CONCERNS

Brian Marten (relative of the Johnson and Nielsen families)

Cheryl Holt (friend of Clark family)

Dawson (nephew of Bethanni and Matt Jobe)

Bo Duncan

Mark Hembre (brother of Diane Clark)

Jalyn Burckhardt (granddaughter to Deb Burckhardt)

Harper Gravley

Karen Kelly



have patience.

SNOW REMOVAL POLICY

Snow removal at Danebod will be the same as in the past. The city windrows the snow to the middle of the street, Tony Dybdahl removes the windrow to the area east of the Folk School or between the parsonage and the gym hall, and Clair takes care of all of the sidewalks and steps. Please direct any concerns on snow removal throughout the winter to Harlan Petersen (507-828-2259) to avoid multiple calls to the contractor at very busy times. And please

If you have any questions or concerns about your donation, please reach out directly to the main office.

Folk School Foundation

In memory of Goodie Broin from John & Margie Bornhoft

Cemetery

In memory of Goodie Broin from Curits & Darla Madsen

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Dale & Joy Schak

Parish Hall Fund

In honor of Harper Petersen's Birthday from Wayne and Sharon Akland

In memory of Dale Swanson from Harlan & Marsha Petersen

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Dorothy Broin

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Jack & Kathleen Randall

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Peggy Wilmes

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Dean and Lori Broin

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Dianna Kirchoff

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Joyce Jensen

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Mark & Joan Wiering

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Dale Nielsen

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Leslie Starr

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Beverly Gylling

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Jill & Paul Borresen

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Olge Ekberg

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Carol Ekberg

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from James & Laurie Johansen

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Kristi & Ivan Petersen

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Ruth & Ronald Grundyson

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Dorothy Broin

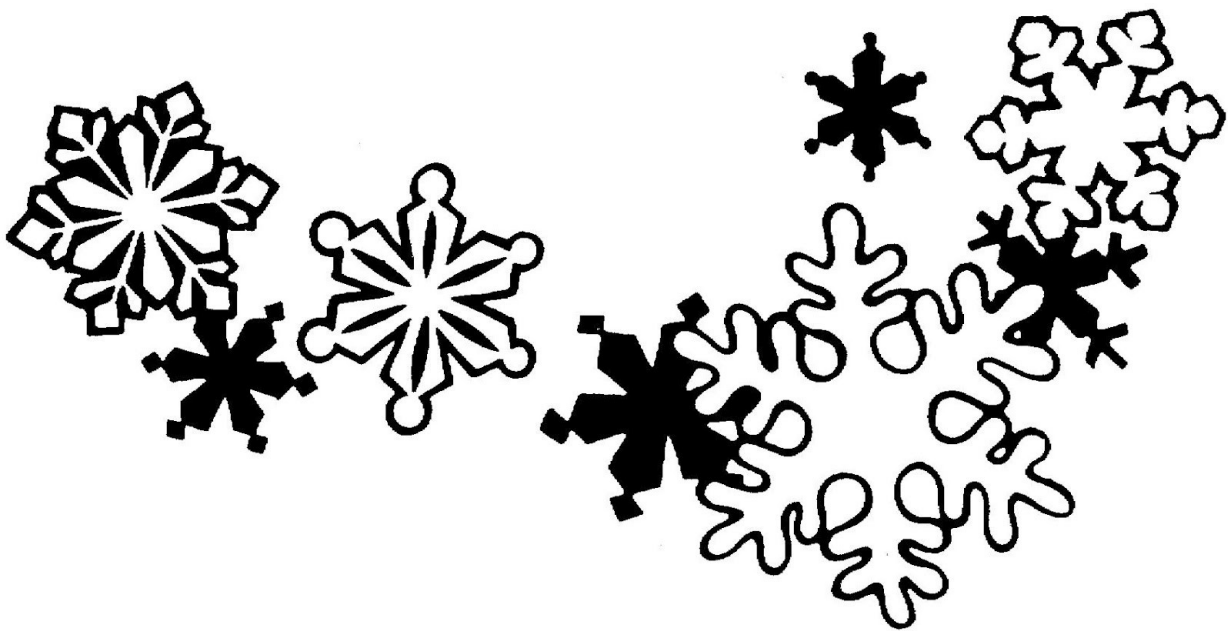
In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Daniel Broin

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Harlan & Marsha Petersen

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Sharon Kolle

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Jill Jaspersen

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Randy & Diana Nielsen



Thank You!

Thank you and your church members for always making us feel welcome at your Danish celebration. It is a highlight of our family Christmas celebration.

Merry Christmas in Christ, Karen Larson

Dear Danebod

Thank you for the extra love this holiday season especially for Pastor Megan's visits and the pie social surprise. We sure appreciate it!

Lois and Cal Nielsen

Dear Danebod members and Danebod WELCA,

Thank you for your generous donations. Your continued support provides supplemental groceries to our neighbors in need. We are so grateful!

Tyler Area Food Shelf

Dear Danebod Church Congregation,

Thank you for holding a hygiene drive to support the RTR FCCLA care Closet. It really helps and we truly appreciate it.

The RTR FCCLA Chapter Secretary , Bailey Weedman

To Danebod Quilters,

Thank you very much for the beautiful quilt and card. Quilt ladies you did an amazing job making the quilt. It was very much appreciated, blessing to all! Thanks Again!

Love, Shirley Mortland

Thank you to everyone who helped make Danish Holiday Happenings such a success. From baking to serving, cleaning up, and supporting in so many other ways, your time, effort, and willingness to help did not go unnoticed. We are truly grateful for each of you and for the spirit of service you showed. Events like this are only possible because of faithful and generous hearts, and we are blessed to be part of such a caring church community. Thank you.

Gretchen and Jenna

Thank You Confirmands!

Dear confirmation student and mentors,

Thank you for the care gift and for your cheerful greeting last Wednesday evening. The cookies are delicious! Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

Sincerely, Gary and Deborah Sinding

Danebod confirmands,

Thank you confirmands for the pre-holiday gift bag loaded with holiday treats and a candle. How thoughtful of you! The treat didn't last long. I'll think of each of you as I light my candle during Advent and reflect on the Christmas story.

Christmas blessings to you!

Norma Lundell

Confirmands,

Thank you for the wonderful winter package! We are so blessed with all of you and your thoughtfulness! A special thank you to Avery for the Christmas card! Merry Christmas!

Bill and Diane Clark

To the confirmand class,

Thank you for the winter gift bag. Very thoughtful, very generous, much appreciated!

Alice Gregor

YAGM Missionary of the Month

Have you ever looked at the back of the bulletin and wondered what Danebod's "Missionary Support" is all about? Every year, Danebod pledges \$1300 (\$25/week) to support ELCA missionaries in their Gospel word and service around the world. Specifically, our gifts go towards young people exploring their calls to ministry through Young Adults in Global Mission. *YAGM* invites ELCA young adults ages 21-29 into a transformative, year-long journey in service to churches and non-profit organizations worldwide. For example...

Meet Tabby! Tabby serves with Lutheran ministries in Nyíregyháza, Hungary. Throughout Advent, she spends time with the residents of the Élim (a home for women living with disabilities), helping to prepare snacks for Christmas celebrations, practicing for their Christmas pageant, and singing with the residents.

To help support such young people using their talents and faith in service to the world, consider signing up to cover a week of missionary support. The process is simple

1. Find the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.
2. Choose an open week, perhaps one that has some significance to you and your family (i.e. an anniversary, birthday, memorial, etc.)
3. Write your name and any personal message you'd like to share in the bulletin (i.e. "Pastor Megan in honor of Nisse's birthday")
4. Submit a separate \$25 gift marked "mission support" at any time to the main office, in the offering plate, or online through the "give" button on our website.





Lots of Holiday Happenings Happening at Danebod!

Including the annual Julibuttiker, confirmation Christmas party, children's Christmas pageant, decorating the church, and worship in the Gym Hall <3

Christmas Poinsettias

In memory of Gudmund "Goodie" Broin from Dorothy Broin

In memory of Jim Jensen from the Jensen family

In memory of Jeanne Nielsen from the Dale Nielsen Family

In memory of Our Parents from Randy & Diana Nielsen

In memory of Emery & Val Thomsen, Leroy & Barb Stroeh? From Paul & Alma
Thomsen

In honor of Pastor Megan from Olga Ekberg

In honor of Danebod Congregation from Olga Ekberg

In memory of Dad, Eldon Ekberg, from Olga Ekberg

In honor of Children and Grandchildren from Frank and Betty Jorgensen

In honor of our parents Dean & Betty Hansen and George Heronimus from Mike
& Pam Hansen

In honor of Samantha Sinding & Seth Sinding from Gary & Deb Sinding

In memory of Henry Jacobsen from Sharon Kolle

In honor of Rodney Kolle from Sharon Kolle

In memory of Roger Gylling from the Bev Gylling Family

In honor of Pastor Megan Eide from Josh and Maddie Baez

In honor of Diane Clark from Josh & Maddie Baez

In memory of Vyles & Beverly Jensen from Dennis, Mandy, Evan, Klay, & Hudson

In memory of Ansgar and Margaret Sinding from Gary & Deb Sinding

In memory of David Nielsen from Agnes Nielsen

January Ministry Team

	January 4	January 11	January 18	January 25
Lector:	Heidi Hansen	Reid Jorgensen	Don Buhl	Don Buhl
Ushers:	Jarod Hansen	Reid Jorgensen	Rick Nielsen	Bill & Diane Clark
	Jake, Kyle, Troy	Cameron Jorgensen	Don Buhl	Kris & Tina Kriech
			Garth Jensen	Layla Kreich
Altar Guild:	April Thomas	Darla Madsen	Darla Madsen	April Thomas
Flowers:	Sonja Lund	Sonja Lund	Natalie Jerzak	April Thomas
Communion Helpers:	Heidi Hansen	XXX	Gretchen Tomeraasen	XXX
	Stacy Jorgensen	XXX	Chelsey Steinwand	XXX
Coffee Fellowship:	Deb Burckhardt	Stacy Jorgensen	Sue Buhl	Sue Buhl
	Norma Lundell	Norma Lundell	Barb Kuhn	Barb Kuhn

January 2026

Sun. Mon. Tue. Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat.

				1	2	3
4 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee	5 6:00 PM Folk School Meeting	6	7 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Choir	8 9:00 A.M Quilting	9	10
11 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee	12 6:00 PM Financial Advisory Meeting -Dining Hall	13 6:30 P.M Church Council Meeting	14 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Choir	15	16	17
18 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee	19	20	21 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Choir	22 9:00 A.M Quilting	23	24
25 9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee	26	27	28 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Choir	29	30	31

Danebod Lutheran Church Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 8, 10:30AM, in the Folk School Lecture Hall

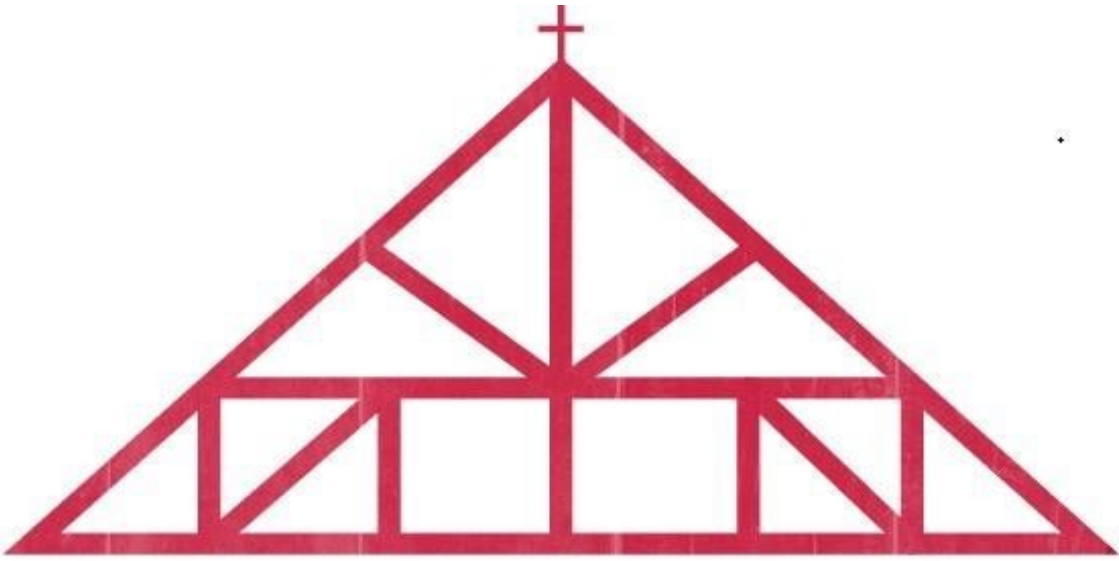
Attendance is required to establish a quorum.

Coffee and goodies will be served!



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